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CANNON HON. J. G.

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Cannon, Hon. J. G.

Speech...delivered at Kansas city, Mo.
Friday night, November 26, 1909.



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Book C 22

SPEECH OF

HON. J. G. CANNON

DELIVERED AT KANSAS CITY, MO.,
FRIDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 26, 1909



PRESENTED BY MR. HALE

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SPEECH OF HON. J. G. CANNON AT KANSAS CITY, MO.,
FRIDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 26, 1900.

Mr. Toastmaster and Citizens: When Charles Sumner entered the United States Senate in 1851 it is said that Thomas H. Benton congratulated him, but remarked that he had come upon the national stage too late, as all the great questions had been settled.

Benton had been a foremost figure in the Senate for years, a giant among the greatest statesmen whose names are found in American history. They had dealt with and settled many great questions, but they performed merely the overture in the great drama of a people's government.

Benton's dream of a railroad to the Pacific has been more than realized. Not one but seven railroads bind the continent together with bands of steel and make the whole nation homogeneous. The cannonball express and the fast freight carry the people and exchange their products over the whole country more readily and economically than similar service was performed within the confines of a single State when Missouri sent Benton to the Senate, and now at one-half the cost for similar service in any country on earth.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE WEST.

Kansas City was a frontier post when Benton died, and beyond lay "Bleeding Kansas," the most turbulent territory on the American continent. To-day Kansas City is the metropolis of the Southwest and the gateway to a new empire.

The twelve States that have been organized from the Louisiana purchase to-day have almost if not quite double the wealth that was accredited to the whole United States when Benton died. In 1860 our total wealth in the United States was given as \$16,000,000,000. To-day the wealth of the twelve States carved out of the Louisiana territory is estimated at nearly \$30,000,000,000, or one-third of the total wealth of the whole United States.

I sometimes wonder what Benton would think could his spirit return and see what strides the Federal Government has made in the last half century in crossing state lines, not to dominate but to benefit the people of the States; to aid in the construction of transcontinental railroads, improve rivers and harbors, reclaim arid lands, regulate interstate commerce, put the stamp of Government on our meat to give it currency throughout the world as readily as our gold, guarantee purity of the people's food, protect health by quarantine laws, regulate the hours of railway employees, and make their employers on interstate railroads responsible for injuries.

I sometimes wonder also whether the great body of the people who now live in this newer West realize what a revolution has taken place in legislation by Congress in the last half century since the election of Lincoln, or even what has been done since McKinley's election as President and the enactment of the Dingley law only twelve years ago.

THE DINGLEY LAW'S SUCCESS.

The Fifty-third Congress, which enacted the Wilson-Gorman tariff law, appropriated \$917,000,000, and President Cleveland had to borrow \$265,000,000 to help out the revenues and meet the ordinary expenditures of the Federal Government. That Democratic tariff law failed to produce the necessary revenue for even Democratic simplicity in administration.

President McKinley was heralded as the advance agent of prosperity, and the Fifty-fifth Congress that enacted the Dingley law twelve years ago was called upon to provide for the extraordinary expenditures of the war with Spain. It had to appropriate nearly half a billion dollars to support our army and navy in that war, apply war taxes to meet a part of the expenditures and provide for the government of Porto Rico and the Philippines. It did so, and the Government also issued bonds, as it has always done for war expenditures; but the Dingley law proved to be the best revenue producer we have ever had, as the Wilson-Gorman law proved to be the poorest. The Dingley law, which was protective, brought the total net ordinary revenues of the Federal Government from \$348,000,000 in the last year of the Democratic administration to \$405,000,000 in the first year of the Republican administration, and notwithstanding the repeal of the war taxes in 1901, cutting off the stamp taxes, and reducing the taxes on tobacco and beer, the total net ordi-

nary revenues under the Dingley law in 1907 mounted up to \$663,000,000, or the greatest revenues ever brought into the Federal Treasury.

What was the cause? That law gave protection, produced prosperity at home, expanded our foreign commerce, and enabled the Government to extend its operations to meet many of the aspirations of the people who clamored for internal improvements, expansion of the army, modernizing of the navy, protecting the forests, and developing the waste places in the arid region.

So the development has gone forward for twelve years, and the Republican Sixtieth Congress appropriated \$2,000,000,000 where the Democratic Fifty-third Congress appropriated less than \$1,000,000,000.

How did we spend it? Rebuilt the navy and reorganized the army at a cost of \$2,000,000,000; doubled the appropriations for the military and naval academies; diverted \$50,000,000 for the revenues for the reclamation of arid land; quadrupled the appropriations for the Department of Agriculture; doubled the appropriations for the diplomatic service; appropriated \$200,000,000 for the construction of the Panama Canal; more than doubled the appropriations for the Post-Office Department, with \$40,000,000 a year for rural free delivery, and reduced the national debt to less than it was before the election of McKinley and the war with Spain.

PROGRESSIVE LEGISLATION.

We have enacted new laws that were denounced as revolutionary when they were under consideration, but which are now looked upon as falling short of expectations. We have enacted a railroad rate law; a pure-food law; secured the denunciation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty which stood in the way of the Panama Canal, and more than half constructed that great waterway; created the Department of Commerce and Labor and in that established a Bureau of Corporations which has great power in the investigation of corporations; begun a national system of irrigation; passed an employers' liability law, a safety-appliance law, a law limiting the working hours of railway employees, a meat-inspection law, the denatured alcohol law, a law creating a permanent census bureau, a law for the proper administration of the National Forestry Service, an emergency currency law, admitted Oklahoma as a State, established rural free delivery, authorized more public buildings than had been constructed by the Government in all its previous history, and finally, enacted a new tariff law, which some critics denounce because the reductions are not great enough.

NECESSITY FOR REVENUE.

Singularly the critics who insisted that the tariff should be further lowered are the same critics who are dissatisfied because we have not gone faster and farther and appropriated more money. Gentlemen, we can not eat our cake and have it. If we want to return to the tariff of 1894, known as the "Wilson law," we must also return to the democratic simplicity of expending less than \$500,000,000 a year, or go bankrupt.

Since the enactment of the Dingley law in 1897 the estimates furnished by the executive departments have been greater than the appropriations by more than \$481,000,000. For the fiscal year 1909 the estimates were \$71,000,000 greater than the appropriations, and the Treasury deficit was more than \$60,000,000; and for the present fiscal year the estimates were \$59,000,000 greater than the appropriations, while there is still a deficit in the Treasury, or greater expenditures than we have revenues to meet.

REVENUES MUST BE ADJUSTED TO MEET EXPENDITURES.

The Federal Government, with its appropriations of \$1,000,000,000 a year, is a tremendous organization, with many able, energetic, and enthusiastic men at the head of the departments and bureaus. They all desire to forward the work they have in hand with the utmost expedition, just as the heads of departments in any great business corporation are energetic in their efforts. But there must be some power of adjustment of the revenues to meet expenditures in the Government as well as in every business organization, and the Constitution places that responsibility on Congress. Congress has not had a light task to perform in adjusting the revenues and making the necessary cuts in the estimates of the various departments so as not to cripple any part of the Government and at the same time conserve the credit of the nation.

But, in addition to the estimates presented by the departments under the mandate of law, every one of the 391 Members of the House and the 92 Senators have demands from their constituents, and it has been estimated by the chairmen of the various committees that have jurisdiction over appropriations that each year these demands are almost if not quite double the appropriations. The principle of raising revenue is therefore a vital question in our system of government.

I believe that the new tariff law will protect our industries and produce the necessary revenue for carrying forward the great policies upon which the Government has entered.

THE PAYNE BILL—INCREASES REVENUES.

The Monthly Summary of Commerce and Finance, issued by the Department of Commerce and Labor, shows that for the months of August, September, and October under the new tariff law there was a substantial increase in all imports over the imports of the same months in 1908. The increase in imports amounted to \$73,000,000 over those for the same period in 1908 and \$21,000,000 over the same period in 1907, the greatest year under the Dingley law. Our exports for the same months increased over those for last year by \$41,000,000 and \$25,000,000 more than for the same period in 1907. This is an indication of what we may expect from the settlement of the tariff question. Business that had halted has gone ahead with confidence, knowing just what are the regulations which the Government imposes upon importation.

RAILROADS INDICATE PROSPERITY.

There are other and even better signs in our purely domestic affairs. The railroads, the manufacturing establishments, merchants and producers of every kind are going forward with confidence in settled conditions. It is predicted in railroad circles that there will be as much capital employed in double tracks, increased terminal facilities, etc., in the next five years as there is already invested in these roads.

DANGER IN AGITATION.

Now, gentlemen, there is only one thing that can halt this confident move forward to give the country another era of prosperity such as we had from 1897 to 1907, and that is agitation for the mere purpose of agitation, without any well-conceived healthy purpose in view.

INSURGENTS REFUSE TO ACCEPT COMPROMISE.

The Senators and Representatives who call themselves "insurgents" and who voted against the enactment of the Payne bill, voted to increase or maintain the duties on the industries and products of their own States and sections. They were protectionists for their own people, but they were opposed to protection for other people in other sections.

Senator La Follette did not vote to increase the duties on lead and zinc, but he defended the Finance Committee's schedules on those products in speeches, saying they were not high enough, explaining, however, that he could not vote on the question because he said he had a personal pecuniary interest in the outcome.

Senators La Follette and Bristow and the other so-called insurgents voted to increase the duty on barley and barley malt for the reason that their constituents produce barley. In other words, these gentlemen who call themselves "insurgents" voted with the Republicans on schedules that protected the products of their constituents and with the Democrats on schedules that protected the products of other sections of the country. That was their right, but when they voted with the Democrats against the final enactment of the bill they voted to maintain the old schedules of the Dingley law and were not supporting the pledge of the Republican platform or the pledges made by President Taft.

There was not one member of the Republican majority who secured in the bill as enacted all that he had contended for. President Taft, Senator Aldrich, and myself all accepted more compromises than the so-called "insurgents" were asked to accept. In Illinois we wanted free lumber, and my constituents wanted a duty on petroleum, because they have the greatest independent oil-producing district in the world. We were beaten, but we did not make our own interests the only interpretation of the Republican pledge to revise the tariff.

CUMMINS ALONE CAN READ HIMSELF OUT OF PARTY.

Senator Cummins complains that I have read him out of the Republican party. Other sensitive gentlemen made the same complaint against President Taft. The Senator does me too much honor. I have not the authority to read any man out nor have I the disposition. I think I may say the same for the President. I have been a member of the Republican party since it was organized and I have never known of any man or group of men being read out of any party except by themselves.

There was a minority in the party opposed to President Lincoln's conduct of the war, some because he did not move fast enough and others because he went too fast. Some of these people took themselves out of the party and supported General McClellan against Lincoln in 1864. There were Republicans who were dissatisfied with President Grant's administration, and, not being able to control the party, they went out and supported Greeley in 1872.

In 1884 there was a minority that opposed the nomination of James G. Blaine, and after participating in the convention went out and supported Mr. Cleveland at the polls, aiding in his election. In 1896 there was another minority that opposed the adoption of the gold standard as a part of the Republican platform. They went out, organized the silver party,

and then joined the Democrats in support of Mr. Bryan. In the same year there was a minority in the Democratic party opposed to Mr. Bryan's free-silver platform, and they supported McKinley, contributing to his election.

Those men who found themselves in the minority in their own party and too much committed to their ideas to accept the will of the majority, read themselves out of the parties to which they had formerly belonged. That was their right, and is the right of every man to-day. It is Senator Cummins's right and Senator La Follette's right; but manly men of all political views have in the past exercised that right openly and have not gone about in garments of martyrdom because they were not allowed to control the majority. Those men in the past did not lose caste as citizens. They exercised an inalienable right to unite their efforts with any party that best represented their views. It is the kind of independence that wins respect and that counts in our political contests.

The senator, I think, aptly recalled the story of the three tailors of Tooley street who met and prepared the preamble, "We, the people of England." That is a good illustration of the ego that often dominates the minority everywhere, in town meetings, state legislatures, Federal Congresses, in churches, and in every place where men must cooperate. The tailors of Tooley street are ever with us, and when they can not be "We the people" in action as well as in the preamble, they take it out in resolving and declaiming.

There was one gigantic struggle in the Republican party which is memorable as the greatest convention of strong and manly men that has ever been known in this country. That was the national Republican convention of 1880, when the followers of the "silent soldier" of Appomattox and the admirers of the "plumed knight" from Maine were pitted against each other. After many days of balloting the followers of Blaine and other candidates opposed to Grant united on General Garfield, who then received the majority vote of the convention and became the candidate for President. The famous 306 went down with colors flying, but not to don sackcloth or sulk in their tents. Those men had the same fidelity to the principles that governed the party that the old guard of Grant—to which many of them had belonged—had in war, and they marched out of that convention to take up the Garfield banner and carry it to victory. Let me commend the history of that one political battle to the Senator.

PRESIDENT TAFT V. SENATOR CUMMINS.

Senator Cummins declares that the Payne law is a repudiation of the Chicago platform. President Taft, when he signed the bill, made a public statement in which he said:

There have been a great number of real decreases in rates and they constitute a sufficient amount to justify a statement that this bill is a substantial downward revision and a reduction of excessive rates.

In his Winona speech the President declared:

The Payne tariff bill is the best tariff bill the Republican party has ever passed.

Senator Cummins declares that the issue from now until the national convention in 1912 is, Shall the men now in control of party destinies be permitted further to disregard plain party platforms?

President Taft is the recognized leader of the Republican party and the great majority of Republicans are his followers. The President and the Republican majority in Congress cooperated in the legislation that has been written on the statute books. With whom did Senator Cummins cooperate? Let the record of the votes on this legislation from beginning to end decide.

Mr. Bryan wants the war against the Republicans who enacted this legislation to go on; Senator Cummins also wants it to go on. When Lincoln found an army marching on the national capital from the South and a body of sympathizers in the North encouraging that army, he said it was difficult to determine which was the most threatening to the welfare of the nation. History repeats itself, and when Senators Cummins, La Follette, Brsitow, and their so-called "progressive" following join hands with Mr. Bryan in making war upon the Republican Members of Congress who passed the tariff bill and upon the President who signed it, in that contest I know of but one way to treat them, and that is to fight them just as we fight Mr. Bryan and his following.

CHAMP CLARK AND THE RULES.

Your distinguished fellow-citizen of Missouri, the Hon. Champ Clark, has done me the honor on several occasions lately to take issue with a remark made by me to the effect that the fight against the rules of the House was a fight to prevent any tariff legislation. The Associated Press in a dispatch from Sioux City, Iowa, under date of October 22, quoted Mr. Clark as saying:

This is untrue and is proved untrue by the resolution I offered touching upon the rules, which authorized the Speaker to immediately appoint the Committee on Ways

and Means, and that committee is the one that had charge of the tariff bill. The resolution also authorized the Speaker to appoint the Committees on Rules, Mileage, and Accounts. These are all the committees which by any construction could have anything to do with the tariff bill.

If Mr. Clark is correctly quoted by the Associated Press, he did not have a copy of his resolution with him or a very clear recollection as to what it contained. That resolution proposed to adopt for the special session the rules of the last Congress, and authorize the Speaker to appoint the Committees on Ways and Means, Printing, Accounts, Mileage, and Enrolled Bills for the special session only. It then provided that the Committee on Rules should consist of 15 members "who shall be elected by the Members of the House, said committee to elect its own chairman," and then "*Resolved*, That the following named Members of the House be, and they are hereby, elected and appointed members of the Committee on Rules," naming 15 members in his resolution.

Mr. Clark is quoted as describing the statement attributed to me as "balderdash." That seems to be as inoffensive an expression as I can employ in reference to the interview or statement of Mr. Clark, though a former President would have used a shorter and uglier word.

ALLIANCE AGAINST TARIFF BILL.

I do not believe that all the gentlemen who voted with Mr. Clark on the rules realized that they were his allies against the Republican party, but it would reflect more seriously than I care to in this presence on Mr. Clark's knowledge of parliamentary practice and the rules of the House to believe that he did not fully and clearly understand the whole situation. Mr. Clark assumed an attitude of noninterference with the tariff bill, but he knew, or ought to have known, that by his resolution he proposed in the first line to adopt for the first session of the Sixty-first Congress the rules of the Sixtieth Congress, and that under these rules it would be possible to bring the tariff bill to a vote only by considering every one of the 800 paragraphs, with thousands of items, in Committee of the Whole, with each paragraph subject to amendment in the second degree—a method by which the bill could be held in Committee of the Whole indefinitely—or by the adoption of a special rule fixing a definite time for a vote, which would have only been possible by the action of a majority of the House upon a report from the Committee on Rules.

There is where Mr. Clark seemed to exercise the most acute intelligence in naming the members of the Committee on Rules, to which any special rule would have to be referred. He named on this committee of 15, five Republicans who participated in the Republican caucus and were in harmony with the administration plan of an early settlement of the tariff, six Democrats who had participated in the Democratic caucus, and who were loyal to Mr. Clark's every wish to prevent tariff legislation, and then he selected four so-called "insurgent Republicans" who had refused to enter any caucus. Two of these "insurgent Republicans," Norris of Nebraska, and Nelson of Wisconsin, cooperated with Mr. Clark in every move against the consideration of the tariff bill, consulted with him freely, and when they spoke or voted it was to support his contention as loyally as did any Democrat in the House.

These two gentlemen and the six Democrats would have made a clear majority of Mr. Clark's Committee on Rules, even had Mr. Gardner, of Massachusetts, and Mr. Hayes, of California, voted with the five other Republicans, as I believe they would, in favor of a special rule to fix a date for the vote on the tariff bill. With eight men out of fifteen on that committee to consider a special rule, does anyone suppose Mr. Clark would have neglected his opportunity to keep that bill from coming to a vote or any opportunity to embarrass the administration?

Had Mr. Clark's resolution been adopted the House of Representatives would still be in session considering the innumerable amendments the Democrats would have offered to the hundreds of paragraphs in the tariff bill, and the United States Senate would still be waiting for the bill to be sent over for its consideration.

THE WOLVES OFFER PROTECTION.

Mr. Clark knows Aesop's fables by heart and he has formulated much of his political philosophy on them. In one of these fables the wolves wanted the sheep to discharge the dogs and employ the wolves to defend them. Mr. Clark's Committee on Rules would have given the same protection to the tariff bill that the wolves would have given to the sheep. The Republican majority of the House, with a clear majority in support of the tariff bill, would have been helpless in any effort to register its will, because any resolution for a special rule to bring the bill to a vote would have had to be referred to the Committee on Rules dominated by Champ Clark, leader of the minority and leader of the efforts to prevent the enactment of the bill.

To put it in another way, the nominal Republican majority in the House would have been destroyed, if all the minority had cooperated with the so-called "insurgent Republicans," and the very first pledge of the Republican national convention and the Republican President, Mr. Taft, would have failed as completely as though a Democratic House of Representatives had been elected instead of a House with a nominal Republican majority of 46.

RULE FOR WILSON BILL.

Mr. Clark has always been regular in his own party. For his benefit and that of Mr. Bryan I cite the rule adopted by the Democratic majority August 13, 1894, for consideration of the Wilson tariff bill, for which both Mr. Clark and Mr. Bryan voted, and which accepted en bloc over 600 Senate amendments. This rule was reported by Representative Wilson, of West Virginia, from the Committee on Rules, but he stated that it was in accordance with the action and will of the Democratic caucus:

Resolved, That after the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order in the House to move that the order heretofore made requesting a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on H. R. 4864 be rescinded; that the conferees heretofore appointed on the part of the House be discharged from further duty in that behalf, and that the House recede from its disagreement to the Senate amendments to said bill in gross and agree to the same; that after two hours' debate on said motion (which shall be indivisible) the vote shall be taken without delay or other motion.

CRISP AND BRYAN DEFEND THE RULE.

Speaker Crisp left the chair and took the floor in support of the rule. Among other things, he said:

I want the gentleman (Mr. Cockran) to understand, and I want the country to understand, that the deserters from the cause of tariff reform are not these conferees and others who have been making this great struggle and who now advise that this bill be accepted, but the deserters are rather those gentlemen who in the midst of the fight because they do not approve all the provisions of this bill hold back and say, "We will have no lot or part in this struggle further."

Mr. Bryan, in defending his vote on that bill, said:

I voted for everything in that bill to-day because that is the best we could do, and now I am going to do better by voting for these separate bills. I want to suggest to those gentlemen who find fault because we did not go far enough that they stand in the attitude of the criminal who when sent to the penitentiary complained of the inefficiency of the prosecuting attorney and said: "He has not done his duty; he ought to have had me hung, but instead of that I get off with a term in the penitentiary."

THE RULES OF THE HOUSE.

Now a word about the rules of the House of Representatives, which have been so much discussed by people who know so little about them or those who have simply found them a convenient subject for misrepresentation.

We have had these rules since the beginning of the Government, and substantially without change for the past twenty years, until a few months ago two changes were made at the suggestion of the so-called "insurgents," who then voted against the adoption of the modifications.

In the Fifty-first Congress, presided over by Speaker Reed, changes were made to prevent filibustering and enable the majority to conduct the business for which it was responsible. The Democratic minority denounced these changes as despotic and revolutionary and succeeded in inflaming the country against Mr. Reed as a tyrant who throttled the will of the people's representatives. Such was the success of that agitation that the Democrats controlled the House in the Fifty-second and Fifty-third Congresses. In the Fifty-second Congress they had to try to get along without some of the features of the Reed rules which they had denounced, but in the Fifty-third Congress, when they had a tariff bill to enact, they made a clean sweep of their old prejudices and took these rules to their breasts as though they had originated them. They went further and enlarged the power of the Committee on Rules by giving it authority to sit during the sessions of the House and report at any time and without previous notice.

BRYAN FOR COMMITTEE ON RULES.

Anyone who desires to know what the Democrats really think of these rules should turn to the Congressional Record for the first session of the Fifty-third Congress. There he will find William J. Bryan defending them with voice and vote and especially defending the Committee on Rules having the right to bring in a rule to stop filibustering. He declared:

We are simply putting power in the hands of the House to conduct its business and to stop delay.

Did you ever hear Mr. Bryan ridicule this identical statement when it came from a Republican?

In that Congress Speaker Crisp left the chair to defend the rules, something no other Speaker ever did, and he, like Mr. Bryan, declared that—

The power lodged in that committee (on rules) is simply the power to report to the House a proposition for its action.

He very truthfully said that the House could always vote down a report from the Committee on Rules if a majority opposed it. Both Crisp and Bryan were sincere then and they simply stated an exact truth which had been stated many times before and has been stated many times since.

My friend, Champ Clark, was also in that Congress and voted for the adoption of these rules. He was right then, as men who have responsibility placed upon them are more often manly and honest than when they have no responsibility and are tempted to play the demagogue.

If the Democrats should again secure control of the House and Mr. Clark should realize his ambition and be elected Speaker, he will, as certain as he maintains manhood worthy such responsibility, return to the position he occupied then and again become an ardent defender of the rules.

Edmund Burke said many years ago:

I find it impossible to conceive that any one believes in his own policies or thinks them of any weight who refuses to adopt the means of having them reduced into practice.

THE FIRST INSURGENT.

The rules will remain substantially as they have been and are so long as we have a Congress, and the majority party, whether Republican or Democratic, responsible to the people for legislation, will be their defenders. The opponents of the rules have always been the men who did not feel responsibility for the transaction of the business laid before Congress. Those who denounced them in the past have lived to defend them as the wheel turned and they came into responsibility.

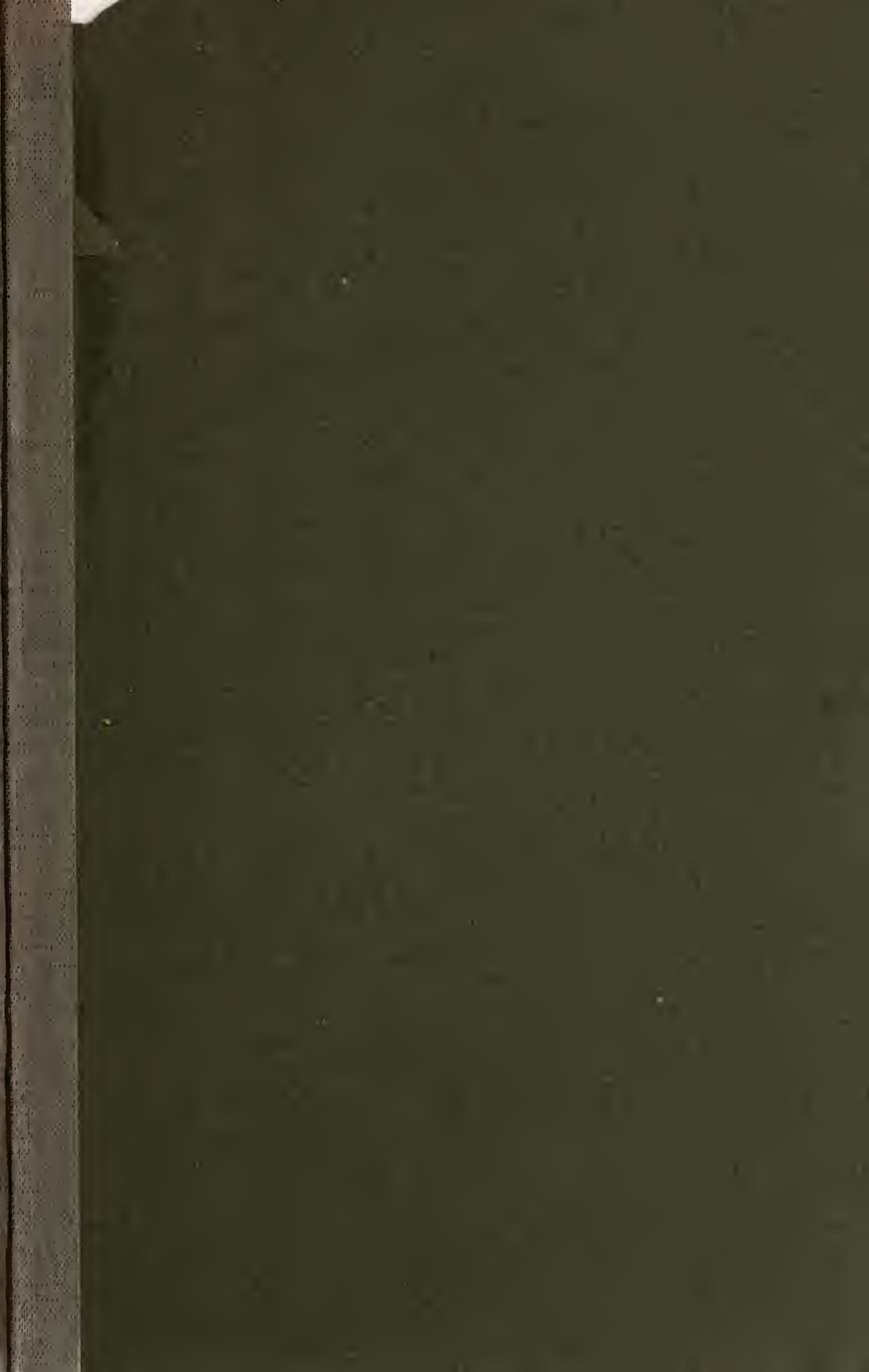
Ever since history began the man in the minority has been seeking some device by which he could overcome the will of the majority, and we have a popular, if not absolutely reliable, record of one celebrated character antedating history whose fiat was, "Better to reign in hell than to serve in heaven." There was our first great insurgent, and he was pitched over the battlements of heaven. Since the creation of man there have been those at work on earth to encourage insurrection against order, which is heaven's first law.

PAYNE TARIFF LAW WILL JUSTIFY ITSELF.

A word in conclusion: The country waited from March until August for the enactment of a tariff bill. During that period, on account of the uncertainty, it has been conservatively estimated that the loss due to the halting of business and production amounted to \$10,000,000 a day. Since the enactment of the new law production in our own country and imports from foreign countries have greatly increased, and day by day conditions are improving. The farmers, who comprise one-third of our population, are stepping high and some of them are riding in automobiles. In mine and factory as well as in transportation and commerce opportunities for employment are daily growing better. The revenues of the Government are constantly increasing. The Payne tariff law is not perfect—perfection resides in Deity alone—but I agree most heartily with Representative Payne, of New York, and with the President of the United States in his Winona speech, that the new tariff law is the best one ever passed under Republican leadership.

Neither Bryan, Cummins, La Follette, Bristow, or their followers claim that it can be changed during the coming four years, but they all agree in one thing, namely, that they will agitate—and they are agitating—for additional tariff legislation, and as the car of prosperity, drawn by 90,000,000 people, moves on they are seeking to hinder its progress by criticism and denunciation, and this, too, within three months of its enactment.

The demagogue we have always with us, and, as ours is a government of the people, the only way to dispose of him is to move on. The proof of the pudding is the eating of it, and I am perfectly willing to trust the verdict of a prosperous and happy people in the elections in November, 1910, after the new tariff law has been in operation for over a year.



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